

**CONGESTION MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
MEETING MINUTES**

January 9, 2003

Marin County Board of Supervisors Chambers, San Rafael

Representatives Present: Amy Belser, Sausalito City Council  
Al Boro, San Rafael City Council  
Peter Breen, San Anselmo Town Council  
Mike DiGiorgio, Novato City Council  
Alice Fredericks, Tiburon Town Council  
Steve Kinsey, Marin County Board of Supervisors  
Michael Lappert, Corte Madera Town Council  
Joan Lundstrom, Larkspur City Council  
Dick Swanson, Mill Valley City Council

Representatives Absent: Tom Byrnes, Ross Town Council  
Frank Egger, Fairfax Town Council  
Bruce Sams, Belvedere City Council

Staff Members Present: Farhad Mansourian, CMA Executive Director  
Art Brook, CMA Deputy Executive Director  
John Loll, Manager, Marin County Transit District  
Jack Baker, Senior Civil Engineer, Marin County DPW  
Dean R. Powell, Principal Transportation Planner, Marin County DPW  
Carey A. T. Lando, Senior Transportation Planner, Marin County DPW  
Jason Nutt, Associate Civil Engineer, Marin County DPW  
Tho Do, Associate Civil Engineer, Marin County DPW

Chairman Kinsey called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. AGENCY DIRECTORS MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Chairman Kinsey acknowledged and welcomed the presence of new Supervisor Susan Adams, Jake McKenzie of the Sonoma County Transportation Agency, and new Agency Member Michael Lappert representing Corte Madera.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 24, 2002 MEETING

M/s Lundstrom/Fredericks, and passed unanimously of those present, to adopt the minutes as presented. Motion passed 9/0 (Representatives from Ross, Fairfax, and Belvedere not present).

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

None.

4. APPOINTMENT OF THE NOVATO AND SAN RAFAEL MEMBERS OF CMA TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SONOMA MARIN RAIL TRANSIT DISTRICT (SMART)

M/s, Breen/Fredericks, and passed unanimously of those present, to appoint the San Rafael and Novato Agency Members, who are at this time Agency Members Boro and DiGiorgio, to the Board of Directors of SMART II. Motion passed 9/0 (Representatives from Ross, Fairfax, and Belvedere not present).

5. OPEN TIME FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

**CONGESTION MANAGEMENT AGENCY, MARIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,  
AND MARIN COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT  
JOINT MEETING MINUTES**

January 9, 2003

Marin County Board of Supervisors Chambers, San Rafael

Representatives Present: Susan Adams, Marin County Board of Supervisors  
Amy Belser, Sausalito City Council  
Al Boro, San Rafael City Council  
Peter Breen, San Anselmo Town Council  
Hal Brown, Marin County Board of Supervisors  
Mike DiGiorgio, Novato City Council  
Frank Egger, Fairfax Town Council (arrived at 7:40 p.m.)  
Alice Fredericks, Tiburon Town Council  
Barbara Heller, Marin County Transit District  
Steve Kinsey, Marin County Board of Supervisors  
John Kress, Marin County Board of Supervisors  
Michael Lappert, Corte Madera Town Council  
Joan Lundstrom, Larkspur City Council  
Cynthia Murray, Marin County Board of Supervisors  
Annette Rose, Marin County Board of Supervisors  
Bruce Sams, Belvedere City Council (arrived at 7:28 p.m.)  
Dick Swanson, Mill Valley City Council

Representatives Absent: Tom Byrnes, Ross Town Council

Staff Members Present: Farhad Mansourian, CMA Executive Director  
Art Brook, CMA Deputy Executive Director  
John Loll, Manager, Marin County Transit District  
Jack Baker, Senior Civil Engineer, Marin County DPW  
Dean R. Powell, Principal Transportation Planner, Marin County DPW  
Carey A. T. Lando, Senior Transportation Planner, Marin County DPW  
Jason Nutt, Associate Civil Engineer, Marin County DPW  
Tho Do, Associate Civil Engineer, Marin County DPW

Chairman Kinsey called the joint meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

6. BOARD/AGENDA DIRECTORS MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Chairman Kinsey commented on the challenges local government was facing in financing programs, particularly with regards to transportation, stating that the STIP was under tremendous pressure. Therefore, he suggested local jurisdictions to stay together in finding a solution.

Chairman Kinsey acknowledged and welcomed the presence of Congresswoman Woolsey's aide and the four members of Troop 15 who were completing their merit badges with an interest in understanding the role of local government.

## 7. APPROVAL OF JOINT MINUTES OF OCTOBER 24, 2002 MEETING

M/s DiGiorgio/Lundstrom, and passed unanimously of those present, to adopt the minutes as presented. Motion passed 15/0 (Representatives from Ross, Belvedere, and Fairfax not present).

## 8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Farhad Mansourian informed the Agency Members and Supervisors that even though this special meeting was held, the regular meeting of January 23<sup>rd</sup> also would be held. Items on that agenda include a briefing regarding ABAG and MTC discussions regarding a possible merger and a report regarding the Governor's proposed transportation budget cuts.

## 9. REPORT ON OUTREACH ACTIVITIES RELATING TO THE DRAFT VISION PLAN

Maureen O'Rorke, CMA consultant, presented a brief overview of the outreach activities stating that 13,000 brochures were mailed out and that 133,000 newspaper inserts announced community meetings in all local papers. In addition, notification letters were sent to neighborhood associations, flyers mailed to schools and senior organizations, brochure/response cards made available at all public libraries, and press releases were distributed to local media. A total of nine forums were held. As a result of the outreach activities, over 1,200 responses were received, 200 people attended community meetings, and all cities and towns in Marin agreed to actively participate in the outreach process.

Agency Member Lundstrom also stated that the Outreach Committee members made presentations to the majority of the City and Town Councils.

## 10. OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUTURE BALLOT MEASURES

Chairman Kinsey stated that the Executive Committee and the Board of Supervisors recommended that the CMA direct staff to go forward in preparation for a November 2003 Transportation Sales Tax election with the focus being on local projects, not regional, and that such a measure does not include a land use component.

Executive Director Mansourian introduced Dr. Richard Miller and Marion Williams from the Strategy Research Institute who would be making a presentation on the analysis of the 1000+ comments received on the Transportation Vision in comparison to previous polls conducted.

Ms. Williams stated that the conclusion of a preliminary analysis was that the vast majority of the transportation issues supported were local. Only three issues were regional.

In response to Agency Member Lundstrom, Executive Director Mansourian stated that he would work with Ms. Williams to bring back a more comprehensive report, which analyzes the responses received from the direct mailer survey in comparison to the comments made by the people who attended the public forums.

Supervisor Adams asked how it was determined that each response came from each individual, and not from individuals who might have made duplicate comments. Ms. Williams stated that very few individuals attended more than one of the forums.

Agency Member Boro stated that, in his opinion, comments from the direct mailer cards were more valuable than the data collected from the workshops.

Members of the public were invited to comment.

Karen Nygren, Tiburon resident, questioned how the 2001 poll reflects the current conditions and needs. Since the public was not aware of the budget deficits at the time the poll was conducted, she wondered if the results would be different. In her opinion, a new survey should be conducted.

Alan Scotch, Santa Venetia resident, questioned whether the real intent was to solve transportation problems or get a sales tax passed.

Don Wilhelm, Novato resident, wondered why a ballot measure was being considered when a previous recommendation was not to move forward with a measure.

Ms. Williams stated that a new survey might be needed, and it would be worth moving forward to find out what needs to be done to put said measure on the ballot.

Chairman Kinsey pointed out that the joint committee needed to discuss: whether a measure should go on the ballot this year; the appropriateness of focusing on local rather than regional issues; and whether or not to refrain from considering land use investments should the County move forward with a measure.

After holding a lengthy discussion, expressing individual comments and concerns, it was the sense of the majority to direct staff to prepare for a possible November 2003 Transportation Sales Tax Measure. Members also agreed that focus on local issues be given priority and that land use investments be separated from transportation issues.

Members of the public were invited to comment.

Alice Fuller, Santa Venetia resident, summarized her written comments in support of a sales tax measure.

Mike Arnold, Marin Citizens for Effective Transportation, submitted his comments in writing asking that the Congestion Management Agency independently review SMART's ridership projections in order to determine the efficacy of investing in commuter rail, as well as associated financial feasibility studies that rely on these projections. He concluded by questioning the objective of the sales tax.

Karen Nygren suggested placing the ballot measure in the spring of 2004. Additionally, she asked that the public be clearly informed of exactly what the sales tax is about and what is the expenditure plan.

A member of the audience suggested including ferry improvements in the expenditure plan.

David Schonbrunn, representing TRANSDEF, stated that a local sales tax measure would be supported by a broad spectrum of the residents of Marin.

Donald Wilhelm stated that the expenditure plan would dictate the appropriate timing for placing a measure on the ballot. Therefore, he asked that no decisions be made until an expenditure plan is presented.

Don Hodge, San Anselmo resident, commented on the difficulty in using public transportation. He suggested exploring alternatives to a sales tax, such as a gas tax.

Alan Kahn also agreed that the measure should not be placed on the ballot until the spring of 2004. He also suggested that some of the current programs, such as safe bike to school routes and school buses be re-evaluated to determine if they will actually make much of a difference.

Jake McKenzie, Chairman of the Sonoma County Transportation Agency, stated that his Agency had not yet taken a position on this matter. He suggested that Marin and Sonoma officials meet this spring to discuss transportation issues that affect both Counties.

Deb Hubsmith, Marin County Bicycle Coalition, stated that being public transit dependent, she agreed how difficult it was to ride Golden Gate Transit. Therefore, she strongly supported a sales tax measure.

In response to Chairman Kinsey's question if a formal motion and action were necessary for this agenda item, Executive Director Mansourian stated that he had the direction that he needed. A series of recommendations will be made at the February meeting.

Agency Member Lundstrom stated that it was critical that an outline of the process, including the steps to be taken to develop a draft expenditure plan, be presented at the meeting in February.

Chairman Kinsey stated that although past practice has been to use STIP funds exclusively for the gap closure project, last year said funding was used for other than Highway 101 improvements. He suggested revisiting the STIP policies in conjunction with an expenditure plan.

Chairman Kinsey called for a three-minute recess before the next agenda item.

#### 11. POLICY DIRECTION FOR FINALIZING THE VISION PLAN

Bonnie Nelson, consultant, summarized the public comments received on the Vision document stating that comments were separated into several categories: specific comments for needed city-level improvements, specific factual and typographical corrections to the Vision document, project preferences, and policy questions. Ms. Nelson asked the joint committee for direction on the list of policy questions contained in staff report. The joint committee held a lengthy discussion on each one of the comments and provided direction to staff on how to address each of the issues.

Ms. Nelson asked the joint committee to read the draft Vision document one more time in order to incorporate any other comments in the final document before adoption of the document in February.

Members of the public were invited to comment.

Ron Downing, Golden Gate Bridge, Highway & Transportation District, stated that since there was a \$25 million shortfall in their budget, service hours would have to be cut. While services along the Highway 101 corridor would not be the first ones to be cut, eventually service would be affected in all three counties along the 101 corridor.

Alan Scotch suggested that some of the primary goals of the Vision document should be reducing congestion and improving air quality.

Deb Hubsmith was pleased to see that the local bicycle and pedestrian plans will be acknowledged in the Vision document.

Mike Arnold questioned the appropriateness of having SMART conduct a cost-effectiveness analysis for an express bus service.

David Schonbrunn questioned some of the points raised in the Marin Citizens for Effective Transportation letter dated January 6, 2003 and asked that Supervisors and Agency Members carefully review it.

Don Wilhelm recommended that the consultant's report and staff's response are included as an appendix to the Vision document. He also suggested that the County work closely with Golden Gate Transit to assist them to improve their services. He concluded by asking what the public review process would be when the expenditure plan is prepared.

12. OPEN TIME FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

Chairman Kinsey adjourned the joint workshop 10:45 p.m.